



**INSTITUTE FOR
HEALTHCARE
IMPROVEMENT**

George W. Merck Fellowship Program

at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement

America needs trained leaders with the enthusiasm, knowledge, tools, and skills to accelerate advances in the quality and value of health care. The Institute for Healthcare Improvement, with the support of the family of George W. Merck, offers a one-year, on-site, full-time fellowship program to address this urgent need.

Aims: The aims of the George W. Merck Fellowship at IHI are to:

1. Build a cadre of leaders with the drive, experience, and skills to promote the spread of improvement nationally; and
2. Build organizational capability to drive quality improvement to dramatically higher levels of performance.

Program: Fellows complete individualized and group training within and external to the IHI, work side-by-side with IHI leaders on innovation teams and assignments in transformational change, and lead novel projects. Examples include:

- Summer Program in Clinical Effectiveness at the Harvard School of Public Health, a 7-week certificate program in statistics, epidemiology, decision science, economics, and ethics.
- Didactic and interactive learning in IHI's Breakthrough Series College, Patient Safety Officer Training, and other programs that fit each Fellow's goals.
- Weekly seminars in leadership, works in progress, journal club, and fellows' forum held jointly with international Fellows at IHI from the UK's Health Foundation, Harkness Fellowship at the Commonwealth Fund, and others.
- Mentored experience in a research or improvement project at IHI, with submission for publication to a peer-reviewed journal.
- Strategic planning sessions to design re-entry to the Fellow's home institution and effective integration of learning to better meet the needs of the organization in advancing the quality and value of health care.

The Program is intended to prepare Fellows for enhanced leadership roles upon return to their sponsoring institutions. Fellows retain a relationship with IHI in an ongoing alumni learning network.

Eligibility, Requirements, and Support: Applicants and their U.S. organizations must demonstrate commitment to advancing health care quality and results. Applications are due October 15 for entry July 1 of the following year. Candidates submit personal career statements, CV, 3 letters of recommendation, and specification of the leadership role and responsibilities the applicant is expected to fulfill upon return to the home institution. Fellowship includes a \$50,000 stipend, tuition, and travel support.

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